

PORTHCAWL
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
J. ALUN EVANS
M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.), D.P.H.
for the year
1954

1955.

D. W. Jones (Printers) Ltd., Port Talbot.

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Public Health Department,

Central Buildings,

Mary Street,

Porthcawl.

**To the Chairman and Members of the
Porthcawl Urban District Council.**

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit for your consideration my Annual Report for the year 1954, and trust that this record of the work of the Health Department reflects, to your satisfaction, the efforts made by every member of the Department to attain the maximum health efficiency in the town.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. ALUN EVANS,

Medical Officer of Health

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1954.

Members of the Public Health Committee—

Councillor R. E. EVANS, J.P.
(Chairman of the Council).

Councillor R. S. S. ROWE
(Vice-Chairman of the Council).

Councillor E. M. BOWEN
(Chairman of the Health Committee).

Councillor D. R. JONES. Councillor R. D. CHALKE.

Councillor Mrs. M. R. DAVIES. Councillor N. HALL.

Councillor G. HARTREY. Councillor Mrs. M. E. JONES.

Councillor T. D. MATTHIAS. Councillor C. PHILLIPS.

Councillor R. P. T. DEERE. Councillor T. HUGHES.

Councillor H. SHORT. Councillor J. M. THOMAS.

Public Health Staff—

Medical Officer of Health:

J. ALUN EVANS, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.), D.P.H.
Joint appointment with Bridgend Urban District
Council and Penybont Rural District Council.

Sanitary Inspector:

R. P. DICKS, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I. (Whole-time).

To The Chairman and Members of the Porthcawl Urban District Council.

Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen.

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the Urban District of Porthcawl for the year 1954. This report has been prepared on the lines laid down in Circular 28/54 (Wales) of the Welsh Board of Health.

Area of the Urban District	3,737 acres
Rateable value at 31st March, 1954	£76,106
Product of a Penny Rate	£301
Registrar General's estimate of population Mid 1954	9,860

Census Population figures:—

Census 1911	3,443	
Census 1921	6,642	
Census 1931	6,447	Males 2,746 Females 3,701
Census 1951	9,529	Males 4,283 Females 5,246
Censal Increase 1931-1952	3,082	
Censal Increase percentage of 1931 population	47.8	
Number of inhabited houses, 1921	1,297	
Number of inhabited houses, end of 1954	3,023	

Extracts from Vital Statistics.

	Total.	Male.	Female
Live Births—			
Total births	129	71	58
Legitimate	125	68	57
Illegitimate	4	3	1
Still Births	—	—	—
Legitimate	—	—	—
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Deaths: under 1 year of age	4	3	1
Legitimate	3	2	1
Illegitimate	1	1	—
Deaths: under 4 weeks of age	3	2	1
Legitimate	2	1	1
Illegitimate	1	1	—

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:—

All infants, per 1,000 live births	31.01
Legitimate infants, per 1,000 legitimate births	24.
Illegitimate infants, per 1,000 illegitimate births	250.

Death Rate of Infants under 4 weeks of age:—

All infants, per 1,000 live births	23.26
Legitimate infants, per 1,000 legitimate births	16.
Illegitimate infants, per 1,000 illegitimate births	250.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	29
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil.

GENERAL HEALTH AND WELFARE SERVICES.

1.—Services provided by the Glamorgan County Council—

- (a) At the Divisional Health Office, Quarella Road, Bridgend (Tel. No. Bridgend 700), the following services are provided—

Maternity and Child Welfare, Home Nursing, Home Help, School Medical and Health Visiting.

These services are administered by the Divisional Medical Officer.

(b) Mental Health Services—

The duties of the duly authorised officer in your area are carried out by Mr. T. J. Jones, 29, Bradfield Road, Bridgend. Tel. No. Bridgend 507.

(c) Ambulance Service—

The Ambulance Station for your area is situated at Oak Street, Aberkenfig (Tel. No. Aberkenfig 303).

(d) Welfare Service—

The local office for this service is at the Divisional Health Office, Quarella Road, Bridgend (Tel. No. Bridgend 700). Officers of the Welfare Department are available to offer assistance and advice to those in need of hostel accommodation, the blind and the handicapped.

(e) Childrens Department.

The office of the Childrens Department of the County Council is at the County Hall, Cardiff, working in your area, however, there are two Childrens' Visitors, Miss B. N. Parry, "The Vines", Minerva Street, Bridgend, and Miss Fox, 12, Brynteg Avenue, Bridgend.

2.—Hospital Services—

Hospital facilities for your area are administered by the Mid-Glamorgan Hospital Management Committee. The office of this Committee is at 8, Wind Street, Neath (Tel. No. Neath 2251/3). The following is a list of the hospitals and clinics used by the residents of your area:—

- (i) Bridgend General Hospital, Quarella Road, Bridgend (Tel. No. Bridgend 1016/8).—381 beds.
- (ii) Bridgend and District Cottage Hospital, Merthyr-mawr Road, Bridgend (Tel. No. Bridgend 17).—36 beds.
- (iii) Cefn Hirgoed Isolation Hospital, Bridgend (Tel. No. Bridgend 1178).—78 beds.
(24 for Infectious Diseases, 54 for Tuberculosis).
- (iv) Heddfan, Cefn Hirgoed Small Pox Hospital, Bridgend (Tel. No. Aberkenfig 240)—18 beds for aged persons.
- (v) Bridgend Chest Clinic, Old Cottage Hospital, Bridgend (Tel. No. Bridgend 345).
- (vi) V.D. Clinic, Oakwood Street, Port Talbot.

3.—Services provided by Government Departments—

- (a) Ministry of National Insurance.

The office for the Council's area is situated at—The Central Buildings, Mary Street, Porthcawl (Tel. No. Porthcawl 582).

This office also serves the following areas in the Penybont Rural District—Stormy Down, Cornelly, Kenfig, Kenfig Hill and Pyle.

Cases in receipt of benefit referred by this Department to the Welsh Board of Health, are examined by their Divisional Medical Officer at the Chest Clinic, Old Cottage Hospital, Bridgend. Medical Boards for the examination of claimants to disablement benefits under the National Industrial Injury Act, are held each Wednesday in the Clinic, Glanogwr, Bridgend.

- (b) National Assistance Board.

The area office for your district is at the Agricultural Hall, Quarella Road, Bridgend (Tel. No. 386).

To assist residents in the Porthcawl Area a Supplementary Station in the Central Buildings, Mary Street, Porthcawl, is open each week on Wednesday 2—3 p.m., and Friday 10—12 a.m.

4.—General Practitioner Services.

This service is provided by the Glamorgan Executive Council, 47, Park Place, Cardiff. (Tel. No. 26216).

5.—Laboratory Facilities.

All bacteriological and chemical analyses relating to water, milk and ice-cream are carried out for your area by the Glamorgan County Laboratory, The Parade, Cardiff.

Care of the Aged.

During the year my services were sought by several General Practitioners, the National Assistance Board and the Bridgend Hospital, to investigate the home conditions, etc., of elderly patients who were in need of hospital or hostel accommodation.

National Assistance Act, 1948.

(a) *Section 50.—BURIAL OF THE DEAD.*

No money was spent by your Council under this section of the Act during the year under review.

(b) *REMOVAL TO SUITABLE PREMISES OF PERSONS IN NEED OF CARE AND ATTENTION.*

No action was taken by your Council under Section 47 of the Act. Three aged persons, however, were found to be in need of care and attention or medical treatment, and were persuaded to enter hospital or hostels.

Tuberculosis.

Facilities for the diagnosis, home and clinic treatment of Tuberculosis are obtained through Dr. Hugh Trail, Chest Physician, Old Cottage Hospital, Bridgend (Tel. No. Bridgend 345). In this work he is assisted by an assistant Chest Physician. The Chest Physicians are also responsible for the medical treatment of the cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis at the Cefn Hirgoed Isolation Hospital.

The incidence of Tuberculosis in your area remains somewhat stationary, and during the past six years the number of cases on the register has varied between 60 and 80.

In recent years, with the discovery of streptomycin, great progress has been made in the cure of this disease. In order to obtain the maximum benefit of this recent discovery it is important that the disease be diagnosed in its early stages. In the field of prevention, the Mass X-Ray Unit and the vaccination of susceptible contacts are assisting in the conquest of this disease.

It is a pleasing thought that in the not too distant future, Tuberculosis will probably become as rare as Diphtheria is today.

New Cases and Mortality during 1954.

Particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and of deaths from the disease in the area during 1954.

Age Periods	NEW CASES.				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary M	F	Non-Pulmonary M	F	Pulmonary M	F	Non-Pulmonary M	F
0—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—
25—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
35—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
45—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
55—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	1	5	—	1	—	3	1	—

(a) Number of Cases on Tuberculosis Register at commencement of the Year.

M.	Pulmonary. F.	Total.	M.	Non-Pulmonary. F.	Total	Pulmonary & Non-Pulmonary Total
27	31	58	12	6	18	76

(b) Cases transferred to Register from other Areas during 1954.

M.	Pulmonary F.	Total	M.	Non-Pulmonary. F.	Total	Pulmonary & Non-Pulmonary Total
5	1	6	—	—	—	6

(c) Number of Cases on Tuberculosis Register at end of the Year.

M.	Pulmonary. F.	Total.	M.	Non-Pulmonary. F.	Total	Pulmonary & Non-Pulmonary Total
27	28	55	11	6	17	72

**Notification of Tuberculosis during 1954 and the
previous Twenty Years.**

Year	CASES.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F	M	F
1934	3	4	2	—
1935	2	7	—	—
1936	4	6	2	—
1937	6	4	—	1
1938	3	6	2	2
1939	4	3	—	3
1940	8	7	2	1
1941	8	6	4	3
1942	9	5	2	1
1943	4	8	3	6
1944	5	5	4	5
1945	5	2	3	2
1946	7	4	4	1
1947	6	7	—	1
1948	4	11	4	2
1949	5	8	2	1
1950	10	6	—	—
1951	3	2	1	1
1952	4	5	3	1
1953	3	3	2	2
1954	1	5	—	1

**Deaths from Tuberculosis during 1954 and the
previous Twenty Years.**

Year	DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F	M	F
1934	—	1	—	—
1935	2	2	—	—
1936	3	3	—	—
1937	—	1	—	—
1938	1	1	—	1
1939	2	4	—	—
1940	2	1	—	—
1941	2	4	1	2
1942	5	1	—	—
1943	9	3	1	1
1944	—	1	—	—
1945	3	2	—	1
1946	1	—	—	—
1947	1	1	—	—
1948	1	3	—	—
1949	1	3	—	—
1950	2	2	—	—
1951	1	—	—	—
1952	3	—	—	—
1953	2	1	—	—
1954	—	3	1	—

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1.—Water Supply.

On April 1st, 1953, the Council became constituent members of the Mid-Glamorgan Water Board. The other members constituting this Board are:—Cowbridge Borough, Cowbridge R.D.C., Maesteg U.D.C., Ogmore and Garw U.D.C. and the Penybont R.D.C.

The main source of supply used by the Board is an underground stream at Schwyll, and during the year good progress was made laying down an underground water-pipe between this source and the Porthcawl Reservoir. By mid 1955 this connection should be complete and a plentiful supply of water will then be available for your district.

The number of water samples sent by the Department for examination was 14.

Twelve of these were satisfactory and two were unsatisfactory.

The two unsatisfactory samples were samples of raw water from the Ffynon Fawr Borehole which again, this summer, had to be used to supplement the other supplies.

Daily checks of chlorine content were carried out by the Mid-Glamorgan Water Board.

2.—Drainage and Sewerage.

The major portion of the district is sewered; one small section has a separate system for surface water drainage, the remainder is on a combined system. That part of the Urban Area, West of the railway, drains by gravity to a sea outfall near Iron Gate Point. Most of the sewage of the Eastern section gravitates to a pumping station at Glan Road, the remainder to a sea outfall situated opposite the Red House, Newton.

As in previous Annual Reports, I have again to report that the Newton Beach sewer outfall is very defective and crude sewage, escaping through the corroded cast iron pipes, causes serious fouling of the beach in that area. In the past, unavoidable circumstances have delayed the execution of works for remedying the nuisance. As this beach is extensively used during the summer season, the Department is indeed very concerned that this serious nuisance which is a potential danger to public health has not been satisfactorily dealt with.

I would again urge high priority for this work.

Cesspools.

The number of cesspools in use is 89. In addition to the foregoing there are three septic tanks.

These are situated in parts of the district to which no sewer is readily accessible, and the necessary extensions with a view to connecting up these properties are not at the present time considered practicable.

The emptying and cleansing of cesspools is carried out by the Council's workmen under the direction of the Surveyor.

THE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF TOWN REFUSE.

Collection.

This work is carried out by the Council's own staff under the direction and supervision of the Engineer and Surveyor. Residential quarters have a weekly collection of their household refuse, whilst from business centres and hotels the refuse is collected twice weekly, or more frequently if the necessity exists.

All refuse is collected in modern and specially designed motor vehicles, thereby reducing to a minimum any nuisance which may arise.

Refuse Disposal.

The disposal of refuse is by "controlled" tipping, the "Dump" being situated on the Sand Dunes of the East Ward, to the West of Rhych Avenue.

Tipping is carried out in proper layer formation, the refuse being levelled and top dressed with 6 to 9 inches of clear soil, sand or other suitable material.

Back Lanes.

Every effort is made to keep the back lanes of the District in as clean and passable a state as present circumstances will allow. Frequent inspections are made with a view to preventing deposit and accumulation of refuse thereon.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

- (i) The number and nature of inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector were:—

General Sanitation.

Water Supply	201
Drainage	493
Fried Fish Shops	19
Tents, Vans, Sheds	209
Factories	58
Bakehouses	9
Public Conveniences	24
Theatres and Places of Entertainment	4
Refuse Collection	7
Refuse Disposal	35
Rats and Mice	45
Schools	14
Shops	315
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	174
Smoke	2
Stables and Piggeries	3

Housing.

UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

Number of Houses inspected	34
Visits paid to above houses	39

UNDER THE HOUSING ACTS.

Number of houses inspected	25
Visits paid to above houses	43

OVERCROWDING.

Number of houses inspected	7
Visits paid to above houses	10

VERMINOUS PREMISES.

Number of houses inspected	4
Visits paid to above houses	10
Miscellaneous housing visits	2

Infectious Diseases.

Inquiries in cases of Infectious Diseases	22
Visits re disinfection	18
Miscellaneous Infectious Disease Visits	3

Meat and Food Inspection.

Visits to:—

Slaughterhouses (Pig Killing)	3
Meat Shops	147
Fishmongers and Poulterers	22

Grocers	35
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	15
Cowsheds	12
Dairies and Milkshops	49
Food Preparing Premises	29
Restaurants	67
Ice-Cream Premises	73

VISITS IN CONNECTION WITH SAMPLING.—

Milk—Tubercle Bacilli	12
Water Supplies—Bacteriological	15
Miscellaneous Food Visits	112

Factories.

There are 47 Factories (Mechanical and Non-Mechanical) in the district as follows:—

Engineering Works (Motor Repair, etc.)	11
Bakehouses	7
Dressmakers	1
Shoemakers	5
Plumbers	3
Timber Merchants and Joiners	3
Sewage Pumping Stations	2
Builders' Workshops	6
Gas Works	1
Cycle Repair Shops	3
Quarries	3
Monumental Works	1
Blacksmith	1

ADMINISTRATION OF THE SHOPS ACTS.

Number of Shop Premises on the register	225
Visits paid to Shops during year	417
Number of persons employed	398
Adults—Males	112
Females	201
Young persons—Males	12
Females	73

ERADICATION OF INSECT PESTS.

Fourteen visits were made to three premises and one Trailer Caravan.

The work of disinfestation was carried out by the Public Health Department, and the costs incurred were recovered from the

owner and/or occupier of the infested premises. In every instance contact insecticides were used, and the results proved satisfactory.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Number of jobs carried out for rat destruction under the Act were:—

Private Dwellings	139
Sewers (in conjunction with above)	29
Council premises	5
Business premises	9

In addition to the foregoing two maintenance treatments for the destruction of rats in sewers were completed during the year.

DISINFECTION.

Premises.

Twelve premises and ten caravans were disinfected after cases of Infectious Diseases, and the following articles were treated at the Disinfecting Station.

Mattresses	4
Blankets	22
Bolsters	3
Quilts	1
Beds	5
Counterpanes	3
Pillows and Cushions	37
Sheets	5
Eiderdowns	2
Articles of Clothing & Miscellaneous Articles	21
	<hr/>
	103

In addition, the following articles were destroyed after cases of Infectious Diseases:—

Mattresses	5
Pillows	3
Sheets	3
Bolster	1
Blankets	4
Eiderdown	1
Miscellaneous Articles of Clothing	15
	<hr/>
	32

SCHOOLS IN THE PORTHCAWL AREA.

Fourteen visits were made to schools during the year. There are, in your area, three large, well equipped schools provided by the County Council.

One modern Primary School is situated in New Road, and serves the East Ward of the area.

The second, incorporating all the latest facilities in modern design, is situated in the North end of Suffolk Place, in the West Ward of the area.

The third school is a modern Secondary School situated in Park Avenue in the West Ward. This latter school is of modern design and situated in pleasant surroundings.

In addition, there are the following schools in the Porthcawl district:—

1. St. Clare's Convent School, Newton.
2. St. John's Preparatory School, Newton.
3. Cardiff Corporation Juvenile Welfare School, Nottage.

With the opening of the new school at Suffolk Place, the use of the old Church School at Lias Road was discontinued in 1952.

HOUSING.

General Observations.

As stated in previous reports, it is not possible to give accurate figures for overcrowding. Investigation into living conditions of applicants for adequate accommodation showed that a number of houses are occupied by more than the permitted number.

Forty-three houses were completed and occupied during the year, all were built by private enterprise.

Interviews granted to many of your housing applicants showed that there are still several families undergoing extreme hardship on account of lack of accommodation.

In spite of the utmost co-operation of the Housing Committee and the Housing Manager, it is unfortunate that most of these problems could not be solved, as during the year no houses were erected by your Council.

The following are the particulars of the Housing position as at the end of the year:—

1. Number of dwellings owned by the Council, 318 made up as follows:—	
(a) Permanent houses	278
(b) Two bedroomed flats	28
(c) Aged Persons' Bungalows	12
(Erected 1949)	—
	318
2. Number of Requisitioned houses	Nil.
3. No. of local applicants housed in vacated properties	8
4. Number of applicants registered for housing accommodation as at December, 1954	672

Particulars relating to registered applicants:—

Total applications on Live List	422
Total applications deferred (living outside area, etc.)	217
Applications for Aged Persons' Bungalows	33

The following table indicates the progress of house erection in the Urban Area from 1893 to 1954—

From 1893 to 1900	55 houses were completed and occupied.
" 1900 to 1905	96
" 1905 to 1910	492
" 1910 to 1915	249
" 1915 to 1920	98
" 1920 to 1925	223
" 1925 to 1930	137
" 1930 to 1935	275
" 1935 to 1940	337
" 1940 to 1945	—
" 1945 to 1946	14
" 1946 to 1947	58
" 1947 to 1948	86
" 1948 to 1949	26
" 1949 to 1950	17
" 1950 to 1951	29
" 1951 to 1952	139
" 1952 to 1953	93
" 1953 to 1954	43

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Unhealthy Areas	Nil.
Number of houses owned by the Local Authority:—	
(1) Under the Housing Acts	318
(2) Other Powers	Nil.
Number of houses erected during the year—	
(a) Total	43
(1) By Local Authority	Nil.
(2) By other Bodies and Persons	43
(b) With State Assistance under the Housing Acts—	
(1) By Local Authority	Nil.
(2) By other Bodies or Persons	Nil.

Of the 43 listed in A2 financial assistance was given to 15 applicants under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Act.

Number of houses in course of erection	38
--	----

1.—Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for defects (under Public Health Act or Housing Acts)	59
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose.....	82
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under the Sub-head (1a) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Acts	19
(3) (a) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil.
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	19

2.—Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	27
---	----

3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	19

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	5
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after the service of Formal Notice.	
(a) By the Owners	16
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	1
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil.
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil.
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1) Number of separate tenements or under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil.
(2) Number of separate tenements or under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil.

Fifty-nine houses were inspected during the year; forty under the Public Health Acts and nineteen under the Housing Acts.

Notices served to remedy defects were as follows:—

	<i>Verbal</i>	<i>Intimation</i>	<i>Statutory</i>	<i>Total</i>
Housing Act	Nil	19	19	38
Public Health Act	10	20	5	35
	10	39	24	73

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

During the summer months 12 sites were occupied by holiday campers in tents and motor trailers. 209 visits were paid to camping sites in 1954.

The figures, set out hereunder, relate to conditions prevailing at the peak period for camping, viz.: August (Bank Holiday) week.

	<i>Ordinary Camps</i>	<i>Organised Camps</i>
Aggregate No. of structures occupied	2,250	69
Aggregate No. of occupants (estimated at 6 persons per structure)	13,500	449 (Actual)

For Comparison—

<i>Total Camping Population</i>			<i>Total No. of Occupied Structures</i>		
Year	1954	13,947	1954	2,346	
„	1953	12,181	1953	2,042	
„	1952	12,072	1952	2,055	
„	1951	11,305	1951	1,889	
„	1950	10,719	1950	1,794	
„	1949	10,532	1949	1,795	
„	1948	10,443	1948	1,733	
„	1947	6,262	1947	1,041	
„	1946	8,383	1946	1,368	
„	1945	10,936	1945	1,706	
„	1939	12,081	1939	2,055	

Every effort was made to see that the Council's sanitary conditions were complied with and, generally, the co-operation of the camp proprietors was satisfactory.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply.

Forty-nine visits have been paid to Dairies and Milk-shops.

Number of Retail Purveyors:—

(a) Resident	8
(b) Non-Resident	3

Eleven Retail Purveyors hold licences for the sale of Designated Milk:—

Sterilised Milk	6
Tuberculin Tested Milk	7
Pasteurised Milk	8
Pasteurised Milk (Supplementary Licences)	1
Tuberculin Tested Milk (ditto. ditto)	2
Sterilised Milk (ditto. ditto)	1

In recent years, almost unnoticed, a revolutionary change has taken place in the distribution of milk.

The milk bottle has now taken the place of the old familiar milk-can and pint measure. This change is welcomed by the Public Health Department as it has relieved us of the problem of potential danger that in years gone by caused much anxiety and required constant supervision. This, together with the fact that almost all the milk now being consumed in your area is pasteurised is a guarantee to the public that a very high degree of safety has been reached in milk distribution.

The public is not quite often aware of the care that is taken in the milk factories to ensure that the milk reaches the consumer in bottles that are sterile, free from foreign material or staining.

The distributors are indeed playing their part and are certainly entitled to expect that the milk bottles should not be misused when in the care of the consumer.

(b) Examination for Tubercle Bacilli.

In addition, twelve samples were examined for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli; they were collected from dealers within the Urban District. All were negative.

Food Poisoning.

No case of Food Poisoning was reported in your area, but every opportunity was taken when visiting shops and cafes to impress upon the occupiers the need of strict hygiene in the preparation and care of food.

MEAT INSPECTION.

With the decontrol of meat supplies, it became necessary to examine the slaughtering facilities in your area.

During the period of control these facilities were available at the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouses in Bridgend and Port Talbot.

Several joint meetings of the Mid-Glamorgan Authorities, Farmers and Meat Traders were held and it was agreed that the facilities available at Bridgend and Port Talbot should be capable of supplying the needs of the Porthcawl Area.

On decontrol the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse at Bridgend was restored to the owners and later purchased by the Bridgend Urban District Council.

Although there were three private slaughterhouses, prior to the war, in your area, no application for a private slaughterhouse licence was received as the buildings previously used were in a very bad state of repair or due to house building were now badly sited.

Two slaughtermens licences were granted.

Visits in connection with slaughtering	3
Number of Meat Shops	10
Visits to Meat Shops	114

Regular slaughtering and dressing of carcasses at the local slaughterhouses was suspended in 1940. Five bacon pigs were slaughtered in this area during the year. All the carcasses and offals were examined and passed as fit for human consumption.

OTHER FOOD PREMISES.

Two hundred and seventy-three visits have been paid to other premises (bakehouses, cafes, fishmongers, etc.), where food intended for human consumption is prepared, stored or sold.

Unsound Food.

The following foodstuffs were rejected as unfit for human consumption:—

428lbs. Beef, 8 lbs. Pork, 19lbs. Tongue, 9lbs. Sweetbreads, 2lbs. Mutton, 60lbs. Cooked Ham, 49lbs. Corned Beef, 98lbs. Turkeys, 25lbs. Cheese, 65 Packets of Cake Mixture, 33 Tins Milk, 79 Tins Tomatoes, 11 Tins Pork Luncheon Meat, 2 Tins Jellied Veal, 4 Tins Kidney, 3 stone Fish, 20 Tins Fish Paste, 9 Tins Fish, 10lbs. Raisins, 34 Tins Beetroot, 12 Tins Peas, 12 Tins Beans, 7 Jars of Jam, 67 Tins Plums, 65 Tins Damsons, 28 Tins Grapefruit, 16 Tins Pears, 15 Tins Peaches, 8 Tins Prunes, 6 Tins Orange Juice, 244 Miscellaneous Canned Goods.

Ice-Cream.

The Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations came into force on the 1st May, 1947. These Regulations prescribe the method by which Ice Cream should be manufactured. The occupiers of all the registered premises within the Urban District are aware of the requirements of these Regulations.

There appears to be a growing tendency for the sale of pre-packed ice cream in the town, and this should be encouraged as there is much less risk of contamination.

Total number of premises registered	63
(a) Number registered for the manufacture, storage and sale of Ice Cream	3
(b) Number registered for storage and sale of Ice Cream only	60
Visits of inspection in connection with the above	73

ADULTERATION OF FOOD, Etc.

Sanitary Inspectors of the Glamorgan County Council are responsible for the sampling under the Foods and Drugs Act, 1938. The following samples were taken in the Council's area during 1954:—

Milk	23
Currants	1
Gravy Browning	1
Tomato Sauce	1
Custard Powder	2
Blancmange Powder	1
Tea	1
Cornflour	2
White Pepper	1
Sugar	2
Lemon Curd	1
Self Raising Flour	1
Meat Paste	1
Cake Flour	3
Shortbread Mixture	1
Pancake and Yorkshire Pudding Mixture	1
Orange Squash	2
Halibut Oil Capsules	1
Vitamin Capsules, etc.	1
Butter	2
Fish Paste	2
Sandwich Spread	1
Table Jelly	1
Mustard	2
Orangeade	1
Ice Cream	5
Salad Cream	1
Dessicated Coconut	1
Orange Drink	1
Margarine	4
Sponge Mixture	1
Canned Fish	1
Lard	1
Condensed Milk	1
Sauce	1
Banana Whip	1
Coffee and Chicory	1
TOTAL	75

FACTORIES.

The factories in the district have been systematically inspected and the details as required by the Factory Act 1937 are set out in the table below.

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	NUMBER OF	
			<i>Written Notices</i>	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i>
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	8	11	1	—
Factories not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	39	51	2	—
Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	47	62	3	—

2.—Cases in which Defects were found.

PARTICULARS	Number of cases in which defects were found—				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of Floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):—	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	3	3	—	—	—

3.—**Outwork.** During the year no outworker was notified as residing in this district.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The year under review passed without any serious outbreak of infectious or other notifiable diseases.

Again I have to report that no case of Diphtheria was notified during the year, this being the sixth successive year in which no cases have occurred.

The last death recorded from Diphtheria occurred in 1944. The public, however, must be repeatedly warned that it is only by immunisation that this security can be maintained.

The Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health has stressed the urgency of increasing the percentage of immunised children as it is known that during the year 1954 only 36 per cent. of the infants under one year of age were immunised against Diphtheria.

Fortunately, no cases of Poliomyelitis occurred, but in spite of this I feel I would be justified in repeating the following observations.

During 1947, 1949 and 1950, serious epidemics of this disease occurred in Great Britain but, fortunately, very few cases occurred in your Area.

The general public should bear in mind that Poliomyelitis reaches its maximum incidence during the months of August, September and October, and should there be cases of the disease in your Area, it is most important that adults and children should thoroughly wash their hands after using the water closet, and especially before handling food. If any vague illness occurs during an epidemic, the person concerned should immediately be put to bed because if this disease should prove to be Poliomyelitis, the chances of severe paralysis are lessened by early rest.

During the Christmas holidays a Nun from the local Convent was taken seriously ill and sent to Cardiff for investigation and treatment.

As the Convent is a large girls' school, some alarm was felt when she was proved to be suffering from Typhoid Fever. Lengthy and detailed investigations were carried out to try and ascertain the source of infection, but all these were negative.

Supervision of the Convent was maintained for several months by the periodic examination of swabs laid in the sewers.

Diseases Notified during the year 1954.

Notifiable Diseases	Cases Notified in Whole District.										Total No. of cases re- moved to Hospital	Total Deaths
	At Ages—Years											
	Under 1	1—3	3—5	5—	10—	15—	20—	35—	45—	65—	Total	
1 Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—
2 Whooping Cough	2	6	2	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	13	—
3 Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
TOTALS	2	6	2	10	—	—	1	1	—	—	22	—

Deaths from Cancer, 1954.

Organ or Part Affected	AGE GROUPS										Total Deaths	
	0—15		15—25		25—45		45—65		65 Up			
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		
Gall Bladder	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	1
Larynx	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lung and Bronchus	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	1	1	1
Stomach	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	2	3
Breast	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Uterus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Ovary	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Colon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1
Rectum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
Prostate	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Liver	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bladder	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	1
Bone	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kidney	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Totals	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	3	14	7	17	12

Causes of Death.

<i>Causes of Death.</i>		<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
All Causes		78	66
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	0	3
2	Tuberculosis, other	1	0
3	Syphilitic Disease	0	0
4	Diphtheria	0	0
5	Whooping Cough	0	0
6	Meningococcal Infections	0	0
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0
8	Measles	0	0
9	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	1	0
10	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	3	2
11	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	4	1
12	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	0	3
13	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	0	2
14	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	9	5
15	Leukaemia Aleukaemia	0	0
16	Diabetes	0	0
17	Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	8	10
18	Coronary Disease, Angina	12	6
19	Hypertension with Heart Disease	1	0
20	Other Heart Disease	7	3
21	Other Circulatory Disease	8	17
22	Influenza	2	1
23	Pneumonia	0	0
24	Bronchitis	7	2
25	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	2	0
26	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	1
27	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	0	0
28	Nephritis and Nephrosis	0	0
29	Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	0
30	Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	0	0
31	Congenital Malformations	0	0
32	Other defined and ill-defined Diseases	9	10
33	Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	0
34	All other Accidents	0	0
35	Suicide	0	0
36	Homicide and operations of war	0	0
		78	66

GLAMORGAN (ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY)—VITAL STATISTICS, 1954.

	Estimated Population 1954	Births		Deaths		Infant Mortality		Neo-Natal Mortality	
		Number of Births	Rate per 1,000 Population	Number of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Population	Deaths under 1 year	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Deaths under 4 weeks	Rate per 1,000 Live Births
England and Wales			15.2		11.3		25.5		17.7
Administrative County	737,800	11,521	15.62	9,038	12.25	370	32.12	248	21.53
Urban Districts	534,600	8,486	15.87	6,602	12.35	275	32.41	187	22.04
Rural Districts	203,200	3,035	14.94	2,436	11.99	95	31.30	61	20.10
HEALTH DIVISION.									
CONSTITUENT DISTRICTS.									
<i>Aberdare & Mountain Ash :</i>									
Aberdare Urban	40,630	560	13.78	579	14.25	15	26.79	12	21.43
Mountain Ash Urban	30,900	471	15.24	397	12.85	10	21.23	5	10.62
<i>Caerphilly & Gelligaer :</i>									
Caerphilly Urban	36,900	731	19.81	373	10.11	26	35.57	17	23.26
Gelligaer Urban	36,170	644	17.80	437	12.08	29	45.03	17	26.40
<i>Mid-Glamorgan :</i>									
Bridgend Urban	14,010	245	17.49	155	11.06	3	12.24	2	8.16
Maesteg Urban	22,920	369	16.10	300	13.09	19	51.49	13	35.23
Ogmore & Garw Urban	22,340	302	13.52	272	12.18	14	46.36	11	36.42
Porthcawl Urban	9,860	129	13.08	144	14.60	4	31.01	3	23.26
Penybont Urban	35,150	554	15.76	499	14.20	25	45.13	13	23.47
<i>Neath & District :</i>									
Neath M.B.	31,530	466	14.78	405	12.84	17	36.48	14	30.04
Neath Rural	41,230	587	14.24	446	10.82	16	27.26	13	22.15
<i>Pontypridd & Llantrisant :</i>									
Llantrisant Rural	25,610	446	17.42	269	10.50	14	31.39	6	13.45
Pontypridd Urban	38,140	618	16.20	543	14.24	22	35.60	17	27.51
<i>Port Talbot & Glyncoirwg :</i>									
Glyncoirwg Urban	9,550	197	20.63	87	9.11	10	50.76	5	25.38
Port Talbot M.B.	45,850	834	18.19	457	9.97	19	22.78	16	19.18
<i>South East Glamorgan :</i>									
Barry M.B.	41,450	744	17.95	465	11.22	18	24.19	10	13.44
Cardiff Rural	37,300	481	12.90	499	13.38	10	20.79	8	16.63
Cowbridge M.B.	1,030	14	13.59	7	6.80	—	—	—	—
Cowbridge Rural	20,000	336	16.80	137	6.85	5	14.88	2	5.95
Penarth Urban	18,870	267	14.15	237	12.56	5	18.73	5	18.73
<i>West Glamorgan :</i>									
Gower Rural	11,720	172	14.68	156	13.31	7	40.70	4	23.26
Llwchwr Urban	25,720	346	13.45	310	12.05	15	43.35	11	31.79
Pontardawe	32,190	459	14.26	430	13.36	18	39.22	15	32.68
<i>Rhondda :</i>									
Rhondda Urban	108,730	1,549	14.25	1,434	13.19	49	31.63	29	18.72





